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of Proceedings of the Commission of Fine Arts held in Washington, DC
17 November 1959 4:00 p.m.

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Memorandum Minutes
of Proceedings of the Commission of Fine Arts, Washington, D.C.
17 November 1959

The Commission met, pursuant to notice, at 4:00 p;m., with David E. Finley, Chairman, presiding.

Present were: David E. Finley, Chairman
Douglas W. Orr, Vice Chairman
Felix W. de Weldon
William G. Perry
Michael Rapuano

L.R.Wilson, Secretary
Susan E. Bennett, Admn. Asst.
Gilbert Halasz, Stenotypist

I. Administration

1. The date of the next meeting was confirmed for the afternoon of December 15 and the morning of December 16, 1959.

II. Submissions

1. Government of the District of Columbia

a. Department of Licenses and Inspection

1. Building applications submitted under the Shipstead-Luce Act.

The actions recommended by the Shipstead-Luce Panel of Architects, for the submissions listed on Appendix 1, were confirmed with the exception of the following, each of which was considered of such importance as to be referred by the panel for final action by the Commission: EXHIBIT A

SL - 2222 - St. John's College - gymnasium. The Secretary showed the members the drawings for the gymnasium which will be located in such a way as to turn a box-like rear facade toward Oregon Avenue and Rock Creek Park. The Commission considered the design had not been adequately studied as to architecture and appearance from the Park and it was moved and carried to disapprove the design as presented. In reply to a letter from the zoning inspector, the Commission considered that it could not give an opinion on the relocation of this design elsewhere on the lot without a prepared drawing.

SL - 2223 - 2700 Macomb Street - Apartment House. The members studied revised drawings for the proposed apartment house at the above address, and agreed that the design as submitted was unstudied and unsuitable for the location and recommended a restudy of the design.

SL-2224 -- 1101-03 Pennsylvania Avenue, The Evening Star Bldg. Consideration was given to the drawings for the proposed remodelling of the old Evening Star building at the above address. The members agreed that this was a very important location and recommended that the design be restudied.

SL - 2227 - 821 Market Space, NW - 2 neon signs for Hickory House The application for two signs for Hickory House restaurant was considered and it was recommended that it not be approved. The Commission recommended one sign only on Market Space frontage, placed flat against the wall in existing frieze, with opaque, backlighted letters similar in form to the classic style lettering on the paper sign in window as shown in accompanying photographs.

SL - 2132 - 821 Market Space, NW = Remodelling. The Commission was advised by the Secretary that the District of Columbia held a hearing, on October 20, 1959, on the appeal of the Hickory House restaurant owner who was seeking to have the application for remodelling approved, setting aside the recommendations of the Commission of Fine Arts for disapproval. The Commissioners approved the application on the basis that while the completed work did not comply with the recommendations of the Commission, it was, in their opinion, essentically in conformity with those recommendations. A letter was received from the Board of Commissioners expressing these views. EXHIBIT B.

SL - 2229 - 101 Louisiana Avenue - Headquarters Building for United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.
The Secretary told the members that Mr. Holabird, the Architect, had stated that he would prefer not to follow the suggestions made by Mr. Walker at the October meeting, and hoped the Commission would approve the design of the proposed building as submitted. The members felt that the suggestions made by Mr. Walker were relevant and agreed that they could not approve Mr. Holabird's request. It was decided that Mr. Holabird would contact Mr. Walker and discuss the matter with him. No further action was indicated.

SL - 2178 - 502 13th Street - Albert Dance Studios. The Secretary reported that the District of Columbia Board of Appeals and Review had under consideration an appeal by the occupant of the above described studios to set aside the recommendations of the Commission and the action which had been taken by the District Permit Office to remove the sign which had not been erected in accordance with the permit.

A copy of the recommendations prepared by the Hearing Officer of the Board had been received and it was noted in this that the Hearing Officer had raised the question as to whether the sign in question was legally within the limits of the Shipstead-Luce area. A hearing was to be held on 19 November 1959 on this

matter. The Secretary had asked for a postponement of the hearing date from November 12 in order to obtain the views of the Commission members on this matter. The request was granted by the Hearing Officer. The Commission was invited to make any statement it desired to the Board. The Secretary recommended that a statement be prepared for this purpose or that a representative of the Commission appear to state its concern about any condition which would tend to weaken the jurisdiction of the Shipstead-Luce Act. The members of the Commission asked the Chairman to consider the situation and to take what steps he believed to be necessary. EXHIBIT C; C-1.

2. Building applications submitted under the Old Georgetown Act.

The actions recommended by the Secretary on the submissions listed on Appendix 2, were confirmed. EXHIBIT D.

The members of the Commission authorized the Secretary to return to the District of Columbia officials, all submissions on which affirmative action is recommended, both for the Shipstead-Luce Act and the Old Georgetown Act, without holding for discussion at meetings.

2. National Geographic Society

a. Statue of Admiral Richard E. Byrd

Mr. Conrad Wirth presented the design for the memorial to Admiral Byrd and showed the landscape plans for this and other memorials to be added along the Memorial Avenue in the future. The design of the monument portrayed Admiral Byrd in Anarctic dress standing on packed snow. The statue will be of bronze and the base of granite. The members approved the design of the memorial and its setting but recommended that the base be made lower. The members also recommended that small hedges in front of the monument be omitted and a level paved area substituted. The Secretary was requested to draft a letter for the Chairman's signature, to the Vice President of the National Geographic Society informing him of this action. Copy of such letter is being made a part of the official record. EXHIBIT E.

3. General Services Administration

a. Public Buildings Service

1. National Library of Medicine at National Institutes of Health. Selection of artists for decoration of lobby.

The Secretary reported that although the design for the National Library of Medicine had not been submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for advice, such advice is now being sought in the selection of a sculptor to make three large marble busts and the decorative mosaic panel for the lobby of the building. The following names were submitted for advice as to the competence of the individual artist to perform the work in mind:

Paul Jennewein, sculptor, for the marble busts;

For the mosaic panel, one of the following:

David Holleman	Boston
Peter Ostuni	New York
Austin Purves	Litchfield, Conn.
Sam Wiener	Westport, Conn.
Frans Wildenhain	Bushnell's Basin, Pittsford, New York

The members approved the choice of Mr. Paul C. Jennewein for the sculpture, and because the painter member of the Commission, Mr. Peter Hurd was absent, the list of artists for the panel will be sent to him for his advice before making a recommendation. The Secretary was requested to draft a letter to the Administrator of General Services informing him of this action, with a copy of such letter being made a part of the official record. EXHIBIT F.

III. Discussions

1. Participation of Commission in community planning studies for the Georgetown area by the National Capital Planning Commission.

The Secretary read a letter which had been received from Colonel William E. Shepherd, past president of the Georgetown Citizens Association transmitting a resolution adopted by the Association on 28 September 1959. The Resolution reads as follows:

> "Whereas, the Association has great and continuing interest in the Georgetown area and believes that the National Capital Planning Commission can make a significant contribution to the enhancement, preservation and proper development of that area.
>
> "Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That this Association hereby requests that the National Capital Planning Commission undertake the community planning studies leading to plans for the enhancement, preservation and proper development of the Georgetown area, and
>
> "Be It Further Resolved, That this Association stands willing to appoint members of an Advisory Committee to help the Commission and staff in the preparation of such studies and plans."

Colonel Shepherd stated in his letter that he had received comments with reference to the fact that the Commission of Fine Arts had not been mentioned in the resolution and inquiring whether the Commission would like to be included.

The Secretary reported that the above resolution was adopted after receipt of an offer made to the Association by the National Capital Planning Commission to the effect that the Planning Commission would be glad to make a study leading to plans for the development of the Georgetown area.

The same offer was made by the Planning Commission to the Progressive Citizens Association of Georgetown, but the Association rejected the offer. In this connection, it was pointed out that the District of Columbia Government had the authority to make such a survey, in cooperation with the National Park Service and the National Capital Planning Commission as soon as funds could be obtained from Congress. Such funds were authorized but never appropriated.

Following discussion, the Secretary was requested to draft a letter to Colonel Shepherd, for the Chairman's signature, stating that the Commission of Fine Arts would be glad to advise later after the survey has been made but does not want to take an active part in making the survey. This letter to be made a part of the official record. EXHIBIT G.

2. General Services Administration policy of hiring more than one architect for government buildings - exchange of correspondence.

The Secretary read a letter from Franklin G. Floete, Administrator of General Services, replying to the Chairman's letter of October 15th regarding the above subject. Mr. Floete stated in his letter that because of the size and complexity of many of the buildings, single architectural firms usually did not have the manpower and facilities required to complete the drawings within the time available for such work. He stated that consideration would be given in the future to the recommendations made by the Commission that a competent architect be placed in charge of designing the buildings. It was agreed that no further action was indicated at this time.

3. Conversion of Pension Building for use as a Defense Archives Annex of the National Archives.

The Secretary called attention to a pamphlet which had been issued by the General Services Administration containing a proposal to convert and extend the Pension Building for use as a Defense Archives Annex of the National Archives. After discussion, the members voted to approve the use of this building for the purposes stated.

4. Establishment of a City-wide Citizens Advisory Committee on Skyline rooftop structures.

The Chairman told the members that the District of Columbia Commissioners proposed to establish a Citizens Advisory Committee on roof top structures. The members agreed this was a good idea and approved issuing an immediate release expressing these views. Copy of the release is made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT H.

5. Article for the Potomac Valley Architect.

The Secretary told the members of a request from the Editor of the Potomac Valley Architect, published by the Potomac Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, for an article by a member of the Commission on the subject of good design. It was agreed that Mr. Ralph Walker would be asked to write the article. The Chairman was requested to write a letter to Mr. Walker asking him to do this, copy of such letter being made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT I.

6. Air Force Distinguished Service Medal.

The Secretary reported that two types of design were submitted for for the above described medal, and that one of these was especially recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts. The preferred design was that of a warrior releasing the bird of flight. The members again stated their preference for this design but suggested that certain improvements be made in the design of the bird. The Secretary was requested to draft a letter for the Chairman's signature to the Chief of the Heraldic Branch, Office of the Quartermaster General, Department of the Army, informing him of this action, copy being made a part of the official record. EXHIBIT J.

7. Selection of Sculptor for Theodore Roosevelt Plaques.

The Chairman stated that the District of Columbia Highway Department had requested the Commission's views on the selection of Mrs. James E. Fraser, sculptor, to make the plaques for the abutments to the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. The selection of Mrs. Fraser was approved and the Secretary was requested to draft a letter to the Director of the Highway Department, for the Chairman's signature, informing him of this action, copy being made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT K.

8. West Leg of the Inner Loop.

Because the members had been asked to give their advice on structures for an interchange providing access to the Whitehurst Freeway from K Street, the members discussed at length this proposal of the Highway Department to construct the Inner Loop north of G Street, passing under Virginia Avenue and K Streets and extending along Pennsylvania Avenue. The Commission prepared a statement giving their views on the matter, copy of which is being made a part of the official record of the proceedings. EXHIBIT L.

Meeting recessed at 6:55 p.m. to reconvene the next morning, 18 November at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

L. R. Wilson
Secretary

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
17 November 1959
4:00 P.M.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. CONVENE, ROOM 7000, INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

2. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 16 December 1959

   Executive Session: 15 December 1959

3. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY: (Melvin M. Payne, V.Pres. & Associate Secy., National Geographic Society; Conrad L. Wirth, Dir., Natl Park Service)

   Design for Admiral Byrd Memorial

4. SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT:

   a. Report of Actions taken on Shipstead-Luce Act Applications since 10/13/59 (Ltr. dtd 11/17/59) Appen. 1)

   b. Review D.C. reversal of CFA action on Hickory House Restaurant (Refer to SL 2132) See Article 3570.1 and 3570.2 re show window projections proposal for new building code.

   c. Albert Dance Studio Sign (Refer to SL 2178, 2152 and 2145) - Appeal of Daniel Albert (Hearing proposed to see whether SL Map is not in error. CFA is invited to file written objections and present oral argument before D.C. Board of Appeals and Review)

5. OLD GEORGETOWN ACT:

   a. Report of Actions Taken on Old Georgetown Act Applications Since 10/13/59 (Ltr dtd 11/17/59 - Appen. 2)

   b. Ltr from Col Shepherd, Past. Pres. of Georgetown Citizens Assn. 11/2/59, reference CFA participation in community planning studies by the National Capital Planning Commission for the Georgetown Area.

6. DISCUSSIONS:

   a. National Library of Medicine, Selection of Artists for

   b. Ltr from Mr. Floete reference CFA policy of hiring more than one architect for government buildings

   c. GSA proposal to convert and extend the Pension Bldg for use as a Defense Archives Annex of the National Archives

6. DISCUSSIONS: (Cont.)

d. Article by one of the members for the POTOMAC VALLEY ARCHITECT (letter from Mr. Haft)

e. Establishment of city-wide Citizens' Advisory Committee on Skylines of Buildings

f. Air Force Distinguished Service Medal

g. Selection of Laura G. Fraser for sculptural work on Theodore Roosevelt Bridge

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 10/13/59 — 11/17/59

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
2219	2125 E St., NW Drug Store	Addn. to bldg.	App'd; recom. that location of roof structure be pushed back as far as possible from the E St. frontage of bldg., 11/12/59
2220	2053 Park Rd., NW Gen. & Mrs. A. B. Hasal	Remove exist. porch & exist. sheet metal canopy, install new conc. stoop, railings, light fixtures. Basement & Entr. steps to extend beyond bldg. line.	App'd., 11/12/59
2221	520-23rd St., NW A & G Parking Co.	1 d-f sign , 12½ sq-ft each face, black ltrs. on white background.	App'd. provided sign be located entirely behind bldg. line, 11/12/59
2222	2607 Military Rd., NW St. Johns College	1 2-story masonry gymnasium	Action not complete, 11/17/59
2223	2700 Macomb St., NW R.A.Kirstein & M.L.Kay	3-story brick & cinder-block apt. bldg.	Action not complete, 11/17/59
2224	1101-03 Pa. Ave., NW Barrow & Nebel	Renovate 1st story elevation to convert to Hotel.	App'd. for alter's. to main bldg., except for planting areas proj. beyond bldg. line. Recom. restudy of facade of small bldg., eliminating new showwindows proj. beyond bldg. line, 11/17/59
2225	233 Pa. Ave., SE Sherrill's Restau.	Repair exist. showwindows; cover roof & ceilings; no enlargements	cornice & base with metal; repair flrs., to exist. showwindows. App'd., 11/12/59

APPENDIX 1

EXHIBIT A

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 10/13/59 (Cont.) 11/17/59

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
2226	615 Pa. Ave., NW Space Computing Center	Change copy on exist. sign.	App'd; recom. upper half of sign panel be either blue, green, or black instead of red, 11/12/59
2227	821 Market Sp., NW Hickory House Restau.	2 s-f neon signs; 24 sq-ft each; 1 sign on 9th St; 1 sign on Market Space.	Disap'd; recom. 1 sign only on Market Sp. frontage placed flat against wall in exist. frieze, with opaque, back-lighted ltrs. similar in form to ltring. on paper sign in window as shown in accompanying photographs, 11/17/59.
2228	2101 Const. Ave., NW Nat'l Academy of Sciences	Replace exist. Auditorium roofing (Dome) with copper.	App'd., 11/12/59
2229	101 La. Ave., NW United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners	New 5-story & basement bldg. for Hqtrs.	Action not complete, 11/17/59
2230	1813 F St., NW Parking Management, Inc.	1 s-f, 16 sq-ft sign; black ltrs. on white background.	App'd., 11/12/59
2231	3000 Conn. Ave., NW Cathedral Liquors	1 s-f, 13 sq-ft sign to replace exist. exposed neon sign.	App'd. as exception to requirement that signs be composed of opaque, back-lighted ltrs., because of small size of sign, 11/12/59

EXHIBIT A

The District of Columbia

Washington October 21, 1959

Mr. David E. Finley, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Finley:

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held in my office, yesterday, with respect to the existing projecting show window which was remodeled along with other portions of the building at 821 Market Space, Northwest, for the Hickory House Restaurant.

Following the discussion at the meeting, the Commissioners found that the existing projecting show window is not entirely new construction but is a remodeling of a previously existing show window projection.

The Commissioners concluded that the existing projecting show window maintains the continuity of fenestration both to the east and to the west of the involved property, is reasonably in compliance with the pattern set by the Commission of Fine Arts in approvals of other construction and remodeling in the area and presents no impairment of the public values of the area.

Accordingly, the Commissioners directed the Director of Licenses and Inspections to issue a certificate of occupancy to the occupant of said premises if he finds that there is compliance with building and zoning regulations in other respects.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Robert E. McLaughlin
President
Board of Commissioners, D.C.

COPY

EXHIBIT B

The District of Columbia

Washington

Mr. David E. Finley, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Finley:

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held in my office, yesterday, with respect to the existing projecting show window which was remodeled along with other portions of the building at 821 Market Space, Northwest, for the Hickory Lodge Restaurant.

Following the discussion at the meeting, the Commissioners found that the existing projecting show window is not entirely new construction but is a remodeling of a previously existing show window projection.

The Commissioners considered that the existing projecting show window maintains the continuity of fenestration both to the east and to the west of the involved property, is reasonably in compliance with the pattern set by the Commission of Fine Arts in approvals of other construction and remodeling in the area, presents no impairment of the public values of the area.

Accordingly, the Commissioners directed the Director of Licenses and Inspections to issue a certificate of occupancy to the occupant of said premises if he finds that there is compliance with building and zoning regulations in other respects.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Robert E. McClenahin
President
Board of Commissioners, D.C.

Copy

FINLEY

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
WASHINGTON 4, D.C.

October 20, 1959

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF LICENSES
AND INSPECTIONS:

Reference is made to the discussion at the Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 1959, when you were present, with respect to the existing projecting show window which was remodeled along with other portions of the building at 821 Market Space, Northwest, for the Hickory House Restaurant.

Following the discussion at the Board Meeting, the Commissioners found that the existing projecting show window is not entirely new construction but is a remodeling of a previously existing show window projection.

The Commissioners concluded that the existing projecting show window maintains the continuity of fenestration both to the east and to the west of the involved property, is reasonably in compliance with the pattern set by the Commission of Fine Arts in approvals of other construction and remodeling in the area and presents no impairment of the public values of the area.

The Commissioners accordingly, directed that, if you find there is compliance with building and zoning regulations in other respects, a certificate of occupancy be issued to the occupant of said premises.

Secretary to the Board

exhibit B-1

THE LIBRARY OF THE ARTS
OCT 22 1959
NOTED

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF APPEALS AND REVIEW

Appeal of:	Daniel Albert, trading as Albert Dance Studios	Docket No.:	M 884
Subject:	Permit (sign)	Decision No.:	
Premises:	502 - 13th Street, N. W.		
Type of action:	Denial		

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO SUSTAIN

Daniel Albert, trading as Albert Dance Studios at 502 - 13th St., N. W., applied for a permit to erect a sign over the entrance to the building, which opens onto stairs leading up to his dance studios on the 2nd floor. This application, designated by the Permit Branch, Department of Licenses and Inspections as S.L. 2145, was referred on January 14, 1959 to the Fine Arts Commission in presumed compliance with Section 3 of the Sign Regulations. On January 15 the application was returned with a notation of the following action by the Fine Arts Commission:

> Disapproved; recommend that height of sign be reduced to 3', limiting sign area to 25 square feet, and that dancing figures be omitted and text be limited to lettering; also that width of sign box be reduced so that front edge of sign does not project beyond edge of door's cornice line.

A subsequent application, designated as S.L. 2152, was forwarded to the Fine Arts Commission on March 6, 1959 and returned on March 9 with the following notation:

> Returned. Request specific information regarding projection of sign from building, giving width of sign box; also exact location of sign on building.

On the reverse of this referral form is a notation of March 12, 1959:

> Approved, provided top row of lettering be black letters in a straight line instead of alternating black and white on zig-zag line. Also suggest six inch space between bottom of sign and top member of door frame. Sign to be centered over door opening.

In due course sign permit No. B-45853 was issued on April 7, 1959 for the erection of a sign 4' x 6' "flat against the building line."

Later on, on May 18, 1959, the Chief, Construction Section, Department of Licenses and Inspections, addressed to Albert a letter reciting the issuance of this permit and stating:

EXHIBIT C

An inspection discloses the sign to be approximately 16" beyond the building line. Further, there appears to be no permit for the electric lighting. This is contrary to the permit as issued and to the recommendation of the Commission of Fine Arts.

You are therefore directed to rehang the sign as per the permit issued.

Albert then applied on June 1, 1959 for another sign permit, seeking authorization for the 16" projection of the existing sign. This was referred to the Fine Arts Commission on June 2 and returned June 24 with the following action noted:

Disapproved. Projection of sign and method of affixment to wall undesirable. Suggest sign be placed as previously recommended in S.L. 2145.

The Chief, Permit Branch, Department of Licenses and Inspections thereupon denied the application and Albert appealed in the following terms:

"I wish to appeal the denial of my application for approval of an existing sign at 502 - 13th Street, N. W. for the following reasons:

"1. In my opinion this sign does not face area under control of the Fine Arts Commission as defined in the Shipstead-Luce Act, Public Law 231, 71st Congress.

"2. Projection of sign at its present position away from the wall was necessary to enable access to the glass window behind it.

"3. Illumination by four spotlights over the entrance to my place of business is necessary to carry on the business of a dance studio. Most of my business is at night and people will not enter darkened doorways. I had to close two studios, one located at 1124 Conn. Ave. and the other at 404 - 12th Street, N. W., for this very reason.

"4. The sign replaces an old canvas canopy that projected 42" from the face of the doorway ledge. The sign is only 6" in depth and flush against the ledge. This is a definite improvement to the area.

"5. The sign conforms with other signs in the immediate area. The drug store underneath the studio has signs projecting outward for 36" past the studio sign. The colors include the red Coca Cola sign. The Little Tavern Shop sign projects 36" past the studio sign in red and green colors. Caddy-cornered across the street Howard Johnson's sign glows in a bold red neon. Farther east on E Street a mammoth "Park" sign flashes red and green neon.

"6. In General - In order to improve my business which has steadily worsened, I decided to improve the appearance of my studio entrance. An old canvas canopy was dirty and unattractive to prospective students. In trying to place a sign over the door, I was told what type of sign, what size, and what colors to use. Even though this was not the type sign I wanted, I agreed to purchase it. The matter has been processing since Dec. 1, 1958 and I feel that I've been used, abused, confused and refused enough to last a lifetime. After all, it's difficult enough to try to stay in business without these extra complications.

"I would appreciate an early consideration of this appeal."

Section 3 of the Sign Regulations provides:

All applications for permits to erect signs, within the meaning of these regulations, on buildings or land in areas falling within the provisions of the Act of Congress approved May 16, 1930, known as the Shipstead Act....shall be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts before permit is issued.

And the Shipstead-Luce Act (Act of May 16, 1930, 46 Stat. Part 1, 366, as amended July 31, 1939, 53 Stat. 1144) provides:

In view of the provisions of the Constitution respecting the establishment of the seat of the National Government, the duties it imposed upon Congress in connection therewith and the solicitude shown and the efforts exerted by President Washington in the planning and development of the Capitol City, it is hereby declared that such development should proceed along the lines of good order, good taste, and with due regard to the public interests involved, and a reasonable degree of control should be exercised over the architecture of private or semipublic buildings adjacent to public buildings and grounds of major importance. To this end, hereafter when application is made for permit for the erection or alteration of any building, any portion of which is to front or abut upon the grounds of the Capitol, the grounds of the White House, the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue extending from the Capitol to the White House, Lafayette Park, Rock Creek Park, the Zoological Park, the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, Potomac Park, the Mall Park System and public buildings adjacent thereto, or abutting upon any street bordering any of said grounds or parks, the plans therefor, so far as they relate to height and appearance, color, and texture of the materials of exterior construction, shall be submitted by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to the Commission of Fine Arts and the said Commission shall report promptly to said Commissioners its recommendations, including such changes if any, as in its judgement are necessary to prevent reasonably avoidable impairment of the public values belonging to such public building or park;

> and said Commissioners shall take such action as shall, in their judgment, effect reasonable compliance with such recommendation: Provided, That if the said Commission of Fine Arts fails to report its approval or disapproval of such plans within thirty days, its approval thereof shall be assumed and a permit may be issued.

In Appeal of LeMart, Inc. (Decision No. 917, decided March 26, 1959, opinion adopted May 21, 1959) the Board held that the Shipstead-Luce Act does apply to signs.

On August 5, 1930 the Commissioners approved, and on November 23, 1937 and October 6, 1939 approved revisions of a map subsequently approved by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, defining the areas within which applications for building permits are to be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for its recommendations, and the building at 502 - 13th Street, N. W. is shown as being within the area.

An application for a permit to erect or alter a sign on a building within the Shipstead-Luce area must be referred to the Commission of Fine Arts for its recommendations, "including such changes, if any, as in its judgment are necessary to prevent reasonably avoidable impairment of the public values belonging to such public building or park," and the Commissioners must, upon receipt of its recommendations, "take such action as shall, in their judgment, effect reasonable compliance with such recommendation." What is left to the judgment of the Commissioners (or their subordinates) is the determination of what revision of the specifications for the sign to be erected or altered will effect the changes recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts. The recommendation with which reasonable compliance is to be effected is the recommendation on the particular application under consideration. Granting a permit when the Commission has disapproved the application for it cannot effect reasonable compliance with the Commission's recommendation that it not be granted unless stated changes are made.* The merits of the

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* But compare the action of the Commissioners on Oct. 20, 1959 in the matter of a certificate of occupancy for the Hickory House Restaurant at 821 Market Space, N. W. This is recounted in a Memorandum to the Director of Licenses and Inspections from the Secretary, Board of Commissioners, reading as follows:

> "Reference is made to the discussion at the Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 1959, when you were present, with respect to the existing projecting show window which was remodeled along with other portions of the building at 821 Market Space, N. W. for the Hickory House Restaurant.
>
> "Following the discussion at the Board Meeting, the Commissioners found that the existing projecting show window is not entirely new construction but is a remodeling of a previously existing show window projection.

/Continued on page 5.7

Commission's recommendations are therefore not open to challenge on an administrative appeal from the denial of a permit, even though they would be open to such challenge on a further appeal to the courts.

But of course the recommendation of the Commission of Fine Arts is not binding, since it need never have been asked for, if the building is not in the area defined by the Shipstead-Luce Act. Applications required by the Act to be referred to the Commission are those:

> for the erection or alteration of any building, any portion of which is to front or abut upon....the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue extending from the Capitol to the White House, /certain grounds, parks and a parkway/, the Mall Park System and the public buildings adjacent thereto, or abutting upon any street bordering any of said grounds or parks....

The particular building involved here fronts on 13th Street and abuts on 13th Street and on E Street. The E Street side of the building faces Pennsylvania Avenue across a triangular park strip which is not included in the enumeration set out above of grounds and parks fronted or abutted upon. It is clear, therefore, that the building is not within the area defined by Section 1 of the Shipstead-Luce Act as that within which applications for permits for the erection or alteration of a building (including, by interpretation, applications for permits for the erection or alteration of a sign on a building) must be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for a binding recommendation.

Section 2 of the Act provides, however:

> Said Commissioners of the District of Columbia, in consultation with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, as early as practicable after approval of this Act, shall prepare plats defining the areas within which application for building permits shall be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for its recommendation.

/Continued from page 4./

"The Commissioners concluded that the existing projecting show window maintains the continuity of fenestration both to the east and to the west of the involved property, is reasonably in compliance with the pattern set by the Commission of Fine Arts in approvals of other construction and remodeling in the area and presents no impairment of the public values of the area.

"The Commissioners accordingly, directed that, if you find there is compliance with building and zoning regulations in other respects, a certificate of occupancy be issued to the occupant of said premises."

The Commissioners did, as has been noted at page 4, in consultation with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission approve a map defining these areas, and the building involved here is within the area as shown on the map.

Section 1 was in need of interpretation by particularization as provided for in Section 2. Determinations needed to be made as to such matters as whether particular buildings, or buildings to be erected at particular places, did or would abut upon the designated portion of Pennsylvania Avenue, the designated grounds, parks and parkway, and the designated public buildings; which public buildings were in fact the "public buildings adjacent thereto," and, indeed, whether the adverb "thereto" had a single antecedent, "the Mall Park System," or a whole series of antecedents; and whether 15th Street opposite the Treasury Building was, within the meaning of the Act, a part of "the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue extending from the Capitol to the White House." But a determination that a building at the northwest corner of 13th and E, N. W., with its main front entrance on 13th, fronts on or abuts Pennsylvania Avenue, or that E Street is a portion of Pennsylvania Avenue from 13th Street on west, even though a park strip runs between it and the avenue, goes beyond the bounds of any interpretation Congress could have intended to authorize or direct.

Since the Shipstead-Luce map and its two subsequent revisions have been duly approved by the Commissioners, the Board must take the present map as it finds it and is without jurisdiction to formally determine that the map is in error; see Panitz v. D. C., 72 App. D. C. 131. However, if the Board is persuaded that the map is indeed in error, then it ought within its powers to seek to have the error corrected.

While the Board is thus bound by the map as drawn, the Corporation Counsel is not under the same inhibitions as to actions of the Commissioners he considers erroneous or invalid. Under Commissioners' Order No. 58-2007, dated December 4, 1958, he must review the Board's decision in this case with regard to its legal aspects before notice of the decision may be served on the parties. The Order specifies:

> If the Corporation Counsel finds that he is not in accord with the Board's interpretation of the law applicable to the circumstances of the case in connection with which the Board has prepared its decision, he shall notify the Board of his intention to prepare an opinion relating to the question or questions of law involved in such decision. Upon the preparation of such opinion the Corporation Counsel shall submit it to the Commissioners, who shall, after noting the opinion or taking such other action thereon as may be appropriate, refer it to the Board of Appeals and Review.

Although somewhat awkwardly expressed, the apparent intention is to limit the Corporation Counsel on review to the consideration of questions

of law, whether or not they involve interpretation in particular. If the Corporation Counsel were to conclude upon review that the present Shipstead-Luce map was in error, he would be free to state that conclusion to the Commissioners and recommend appropriate action. The Corporation Counsel should be invited to consider this question on review.

Meanwhile the Board, since it must take the map as it finds it, is required to conclude that the building in question is in the Shipstead-Luce area. Since an application for the erection or alteration of a sign in that area must be referred to the Commission of Fine Arts for a binding recommendation, and since the Commission of Fine Arts has recommended disapproval of appellant's sign permit application of June 1, 1959, the Chief of the Permit Branch, Department of Licenses and Inspections was required to deny it and his decision must be sustained.

It should be noted that this appeal is from the denial of an application for a permit for the erection of the sign which has in fact been erected without an electrical permit and in a manner at variance with the terms of sign permit B-45859, issued April 7, 1959, and that the appeal is not from the order of May 18, 1959 to remove the sign as it presently stands. As the Board said in Appeal of LeMart, Inc. (Decision No. 916, decided March 26, 1959):

> The enforcement agencies of the District which are concerned in this matter must give some weight to the pendency of the appeal /from the denial of the permit application/ in determining how they will exercise their discretion in timing enforcement action on the sign removal order, but whether they give any weight to it is entirely discretionary.

CHARLES W. HART
Hearing Officer
Board of Appeals and Review, D. C.

CWH/jfg

November 4, 1959

Statement of David E. Finley, Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts, at the hearing before the Board of Review and Appeals on Thursday, 19 November 1959 at 10:20 a.m. (Albert Dance Studios)

I am glad to have this opportunity to express the concern which the members of the Commission of Fine Arts feel with regard to upholding the validity of the Shipstead-Luce Act. I do not intend to discuss the merits of any particular case or appeal which may be pending before the Board. I am here only because an effort has been made to question the validity of the boundaries of the Shipstead-Luce area as drawn on the map prepared by the District of Columbia Commissioners and the National Capital Planning Commission. Not only have the boundaries been drawn, as authorized by law, but regulations have been adopted by the District Commissioners upon recommendation by the Commission of Fine Arts, regarding procedures under the Act.

I think the intention of Congress in enacting the Shipstead-Luce Act is quite clear. In connection with the development of the city of Washington, the Act states: "... it is hereby declared that such development should proceed along the lines of good order, good tAste, and with due regard to the public interests involved, and a reasonable degree of control should be exercised over the architecture of private or semipublic buildings adjacent to public buildings and grounds of major importance." The act gives to the National Capital Planning Commission and the District Commissioners discretionary powers to fix the boundaries where development of the city is controlled under this Act. The purpose is to control the appearance of buildings fronting on or in clear view from the public domain.

The Commission of Fine Arts urges, therefore, that the present boundaries be upheld and, if necessary increased so as to insure that the development of the city should be along the lines of good order, good taste, and with due regard to the public interests involved, as provided by law.

EXHIBIT C-1

Statement of David E. Finley, Chairman Commission of Fine Arts,
at the hearing before the Board of Review and Appeals on Thursday,
19 November 1959 at 10:20 a.m. (Albert Davis Studios)

I am glad to have this opportunity to express the concern which the members of the Commission of Fine Arts feel with regard to upholding the validity of the Shipstead-Luce Act. I do not intend to discuss the merits of any particular case or appeal which may be pending before the Board. I am here only because an effort has been made to question the validity of the boundaries of the Shipstead-Luce area as drawn on the map prepared by the District of Columbia Commissioners and the National Capital Planning Commission. Not only have the boundaries been drawn, as authorized by law, but regulations have been adopted by the District Commissioners upon recommendation by the Commission of Fine Arts regarding procedures under the Act.

I think the intention of Congress in enacting the Shipstead-Luce Act is quite clear. In connection with the development of the city of Washington the Act states: "... it is hereby declared that such development should proceed along the lines of good order, good taste, and with due regard to the public interests involved, and a reasonable degree of control should be exercised over the architecture of private or semipublic buildings adjacent to public buildings and grounds of major importance." The act gives to the National Capital Planning Commission and the District Commissioners discretionary powers to fix the boundaries where development of the city is controlled under this Act. The purpose is to control the appearance of buildings fronting on or in clear view from the public domain.

The Commission of Fine Arts urges, therefore, that the present boundaries be upheld and, if necessary increased so as to insure that the development of the city should be along the lines of good order, good taste and with due regard to the public interests involved, as provided by law.

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
2484	3259 R St., NW Mrs. M. O. Meiter	Dining rm. addition	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 11/13/59
2485	3030 Cambridge Pl. John D. Leonard	Replace exist. porch; no change in size.	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway, 11/13/59
2486	1709-34th St. A. L. Wheeler	New 2-story, brick, wood & slate dwelling.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 11/13/59
2487	1711-34th St. A. L. Wheeler	New 2-story, brick, wood & slate dwelling.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 11/13/59
2488	1713-34th St. A. L. Wheeler	New 2-story, brick, wood & slate dwelling.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 11/13/59
2489	3108 P St. Mr & Mrs C. Herter	Remove exist. windows, enlarge openings for 1 Bay Window & 1 picture window. Change location of basement door.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 11/13/59

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

5 November 1959

Dear Mr. Green:

I have received your application No. O. G. 2479, which involves a change in a previous building permit for the remodelling of a building facade at 2813 M St., N. W., in particular, a change in the design of the garage door.

While the garage door, as now constructed, varies in scale from the design recommended by the Commission, we would recommend accepting it, particularly as the work has been done and the door has been installed.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mr. Julian P. Green
Chief, Permit Branch
108 District Building
Washington 4, D. C.

EXHIBIT D

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON OLD GEORGETOWN ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 10/13/59 11/17/59

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
2468	1506 Wisc. Ave. H. E. Bottelson	Remove exist. bay & front & rebuild; alterations & new duct work for heating.	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway, 10/20/59
2469	2703 Dumbarton Ave. Garth Peters	Replace unsightly stone with 1 step & platform with tile or brick veneer over reinforced concrete side walls.	Recom'd. for design of steps & platform, but prefer that all exposed concrete surfaces be faced with brick, 10/21/59
2470	3413 Dent Pl. L. N. Brandt	3-story brick & cinder-block residence.	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway, 11/4/59
2471	1712-34th St. Jean K. Sherier	Remove present frame porch & build new brick platform, steps. Also pave new walk from bottom of steps to sidewalk with brick.	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway, 10/21/59
2472	3101 M St. Mexican Shop	Change windows in 2nd & 3rd fls. Sashes to be 12 Lights in lieu of 4 lights.	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway, 10/21/59
2473	1248-36th St. Georgetown U. Shop	New entr. frame for doorway & lighting fixture.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 10/21/59
2474	1623-28th St. F. Lamont Belin	Raze frame enclosed porch only	The CFA has no objection to the owner's desire to raze this extension to Evermay, 10/21/59
2475	Rear 1233 Wisc. Ave. Stanton Kolb	Parking lot attendant's shed	In view of the fact that this bldg. has already been erected, the CFA expresses no opinion about the design. The matter of issuing a permit is one for the D. C. Comm'rs. to decide, 11/3/59

Exhibit D

APPENDIX 2

EXHIBIT D

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON OLD GEORGETOWN ACT APPLICATIONS SINCE 10/13/59 (Cont.) 11/17/59

NO	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT	ACTION
2476	2620 P St. J. F. Harris, III	3-story brick apt. bldg.	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway suggest exposed concrete surfaces of all steps & areaway be faced with brick, 11/4/59.
2477	2912 M St. Pierre Gaunoux	Remove pilasters at sides of front door, rebuild wood cornice above door & window as suggested by CFA.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 11/3/59
2478	2904 M St. R. L. Yonan	Remove carrara glass on front of bldg; install a door in exist. frame; remove rear stairway & close well.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway, 11/3/59
2479	2813 M St. Williams & Baker (garage)	Change in overhead door style from plans previously submitted under OG 2441. (Already in place)	Ret'd. See attached ltr. dtd. 11/5/59, addressed to Mr. Julian P. Green, Chief, Permit Branch, D. C. Dept. of Licenses & Inspections, 11/5/59
2480	3101 M St. Mexican Shop	Window sashes to be 18 lights in lieu of 4 lights.	Recom'd. for parts visible from public highway. Note: Vertical dimension of window lights should be greater than horizontal dimension, 11/3/59
2481	1610-28th St. Lloyd Salyer, Inc.	New 3-story brick & cinder-block dwelling	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway, 11/4/59
2482	1612-28th St. Lloyd Salyer, Inc.	New 3-story brick & cinder-block dwelling	Recom'd. for parts visible from a public highway, 11/4/59
2483	3249 "O" St. J. H. Costinett	Change exist. door & frame to opening of center window. Change center window & frame to door opening.	Recom'd. for changes visible from public highway, 11/4/59

EXHIBIT D

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

30 November 1959

Dear Mr. Payne:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on November 17, was glad to meet with Mr. Conrad Wirth and yourself to discuss the design for the Admiral Byrd Memorial, which is being sponsored by the National Geographic Society. Mr. Wirth presented the plan to the Commission, showing photographs of the sculpture which is the work of Felix de Weldon; also the landscape plan which had been made by Mr. Elbert Peets. The design of the monument portrayed Admiral Byrd in Antarctic dress, standing on packed snow. The statue will be of bronze and the base of granite. The representation of snow will be made in Georgia marble.

The design of the memorial and its setting was approved. The members of the Commission felt, however, that the base of the statue was too high and the sculptor said that he would take this into consideration in working out the final plans. The Commission also considered that the small hedges in front of the monument bordering the the roadway could be omitted. This, they felt, would be especially desirable in order to make uniform the setting for all the monuments that will be eventually placed along Memorial Avenue. In place of the hedge it was suggested that a level paved area be substituted. These changes were considered to be minor matters and the Commission agreed that they would not delay the approval which this Commission gave to the design of the monument. They were pleased that the first monument in this memorial area would be a memorial to Admiral Byrd and agreed that it would be a handsome work of art.

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts will be held on December 16 and I will be glad to reserve time for you to present changes that might be made before that time, if you desire.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mr. Melvin M. Payne
Vice President
National Geographic Society
Washington 6, D. C.

EXHIBIT E

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

25 November 1959

Dear Mr. Wallace:

At its meeting on November 18, the Commission of Fine Arts considered your letter requesting advice on the competence of artists who had been proposed by the architect for sculpture and mosaic work in the new National Libraryof Medicine.

Because of the absence of the painter member of the Commission, Mr. Peter Hurd, the Commission took no action on the artists recommended for the mosaic work. Your letter has been forwarded to him at his home for study and we will write you when we have had time to receive word from Mr. Hurd about this matter.

The members of the Commission approved the choice of Mr. Jennewein to do the bust proposed for the building. We will be glad to confer with you on the sketches for this work as soon as the sculptor has them ready for presentation.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Karl E. Wallace
Commissioner
Public Buildings Service
General Services Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1 December 1959

Dear Colonel Shepherd:

The Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on November 18, considered the resolution of Georgetown citizens regarding proposed community planning studies of the Old Georgetown Area by the National Capital Planning Commission.

The members of the Commission thought that it might be desirable to make such a survey, but they felt it would not be advisable for the Commission to take part in carrying out the work. If, at some future date, the National Capital Planning Commission desires to consult with the Commission of Fine Arts on the matter, we will, of course, be willing to confer with them.

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Colonel William E. Shepherd
Georgetown Citizens Association
1511 33d Street, N.W.
Washington 7, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

EXHIBIT C

NEWS RELEASE

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, 18 NOVEMBER: David E. Finley, Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts said that the members of the Commission at its meeting today, were favorably impressed with the recommendations of the Building Skyline Study that has been made by the Commissioners' Planning Advisory Council, and transmitted to the Commission of Fine Arts by the Engineer Commissioner for the District of Columbia.

The members of the Commission agreed with the recommendations of the Commissioners' Planning Advisory Council that a National Capital Citizens Advisory Committee on Skylines of Buildings be established by the D. C. Commissioners to make recommendations for the improvement of existing buildings; also that the building and zoning regulations be amended to permit housing mechanical equipment on roofs within enclosures that are designed to be in harmony with the main building walls. They expressed no opinion as regards the formation of an awards program, feeling that this is a matter which could be determined at a later date after the zoning regulations have come into force. The Planning Advisory Council's recommendations are in line with the views of the Commission of Fine Arts, as made public on August 19, 1959, stating that: "It is believed that a general regulation to control the design of the exterior housings of mechanical equipment, etc., is the most feasible means of keeping the skyline of buildings in harmony with principles of design needed to preserve the appearance of the National Capital."

The Commission is glad to know of the progress which has been made by the Planning Advisory Council established by the D. C. Commissioners and hopes that steps will soon be taken to effect zoning regulations regarding the skyline of buildings.

Exhibit H

NEWS RELEASE

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Commission is glad to know of the progress which has been made by the Planning Advisory Council established by the D. C. Commissioners and hopes that steps will soon be taken to effect zoning regulations regarding the skyline of buildings.

NEWS RELEASE

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

WASHINGTON: 19 August - At its meeting today the Commission of Fine Arts passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia be urged to consider ways and means of reducing the chaotic and jagged silhouette of rooflines created by existing standards in the Building Code for penthouses, stacks and other mechanical equipment. The example of certain owners and architects who have voluntarily enclosed these facilities within separate walls, thus making them an integral part of the design of the building, is worthy of general observance. It is believed that a general regulation to control the design of the exterior housings of mechanical equipment, etc., is the most feasible means of keeping the skyline of buildings in harmony with principles of design needed to preserve the appearance of the National Capital.

EXHIBIT H1

POTOMAC VALLEY CHAPTER OF MARYLAND
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
BOX 263, Silver Spring, Maryland

27 October 1959

Mr. David E. Finley, Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
WA shington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Finley:

Mr. L. R. Wilson has suggested we contact you in reference to preparing an article for our publication. I am enclosing a copy of our first issue of the POTOMAC VALLEY ARCHITECT which sets our theme for the next nine issues.

Feel free to choose any topic you wish, however we would like to have it tie in with our general theme "Better Environment Thru Design"; a possible theme could be "The need for a Fine Commission". Your article should be around 500-600 words, but by all means do not restrict yourself to this number; if necessary we will run your article in two installments or more.

We must be in to the printers by the fifteenth of any given month, in order to publish the following month. Consequently, it would be helpful if I may have your article by the tenth of the month. If I may I would like to schedule your article for December. Please let me know if this would be inconvenient, and I will set another date.

Again, I want to thank you for your courtesy and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

/s/Leonard A. Haft Chairman
Public Relations and
Publications Committee

EXHIBIT I

[illegible] CHAPTER OF [illegible]
THE [illegible] SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS
Box 2[illegible], Silver Spring, Maryland

27 October 19[illegible]

Mr. David E. Finley, Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Finley:

Mr. [illegible] R. Wilson has suggested we contact you in regard to preparing an article for our publication. I am enclosing a copy of our first issue of the [illegible] which gives information as to our theme for the next nine issues.

Feel free to choose any topic you wish. However we would like to have it tie in with our general theme "Better Environment Thru Design". A possible theme could be "The need for a Fine Commission". Your article should be around 500-600 words, but by all means do not restrict yourself to this number; if necessary we will run your article in two installments or more.

We must be in to the printers by the fifteenth of any given month in order to publish the following month. Consequently, it would be helpful if I may have your article by the tenth of the month. If I may I would like to schedule your article for December. Please let me know if this would be inconvenient and I will set another date.

Again, I want to thank you for your courtesy and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

/s/Leonard A. Hall, Chairman
Public Relations and
Publications Committee

ENCL[illegible]

1 December 1959

Dear Ralph:

I am sending you a copy of a letter from the Potomac Chapter of the AIA which requests a short article on the Commission of Fine Arts for publication in the Chapter's Bulletin. When I read this letter to the members at our meeting on November 18, they all hoped you would be willing to write such a short article for this purpose.

Will you have time to do so?

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Ralph Walker
101 Park Avenue"
New York 17, New York

EXHIBIT I-1

1 December 1959

Dear Ralph:

I am sending you a copy of a letter from the [illegible] Chapter of the AIA which requests a short article on the Commission of Fine Arts for publication in the Chapter's Bulletin. When I read this letter to the members at our meeting on November 18, they all hoped you would be willing to write such a short article for this purpose.

Will you have time to do so?

Sincerely yours

David E. Finley
Chairman

Honorable Ralph Walker
101 Park Avenue
New York 17, New York

EXHIBIT I-1

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

25 November 1959

Dear Colonel Cook:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on November 17, considered the two designs for the Distinguished Service Medal of the Air Force which you submitted with your letter of November 12.

You will recall that the two types of designs were submitted and that one of these was especially recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts for this medal. The members of the Commission reaffirmed their preference for the medal depicting the warrior releasing the bird of flight and asked me to write you that they hoped that the Air Force would choose this design in preference to the more conventionalized design.

The members of the Commission felt that the warrior design needed some further refinements in the placing of the bird itself, to remove the wing tip from the lettering at the top of the medal. There was also some question raised as to whether there should not be some wording on the medal to mark it as an Air Force medal.

We believe these matters are such as will easily be included in a scale model which will have to be prepared. When the Air Force has made their decision as to which meda l they would prefer to make, we will be glad to confer with you further on the models of the final medal.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

David E. Finley
Chairman

Lt. Col James S. Cook, jr.
Chief, Heraldic Branch,
Office of the Quartermaster General
Department of the Army
Washington 25, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

25 November 1959

Dear Mr. Sawyer:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on November 17, considered your letter which recommended Laura G. Fraser as the sculptor for plaques on the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. The members of the Commission were glad to learn that the bridge designers and the Theodore Roosevelt Association have chosen Mrs. Fraser, and will look forward to seeing sketches for this work as soon as they are ready. If they are ready by December 16 I will be glad to have time reserved for you and the sculptor to present them at that time.

Sincerely yours

David E. Finley
Chairman

Mr. G. I Sawyer
Deputy Director for Design
Engineering and Research
Department of Highways and Traffic
Washington 4, D. C.

EXHIBIT K

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

NEWS RELEASE

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
7000 Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON: 18 November - David E. Finley, Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts, said that the Commission at its meeting today discussed with Mr. Harold Aitken, D.C. Director of Highways and Traffic, the designs for the west leg of the Inner Loop which were shown to the Commission by Mr. Airken and Mr. Sawyer, Deputy Director of Design of the D. C. Highway Department. The project involved the section of the Inner Loop north of G Street, passing under Virginia Avenue and K Street, and extending along Pennsylvania Avenue. As a part of the project, the Commission reviewed designs for structures for an interchange providing access to the Whitehurst Freeway at K Street.

The Commission of Fine Arts has never been shown the general plan for the Inner Loop, although it has been asked to advise with regard to the design of some bridges and structures which are part of the Inner Loop system in southeast and southwest Washington. In approving these designs of bridges, the Commission has always made clear that it was not approving the general plan of the Inner Loop, which threatens to mar and in many places change the appearance of the city.

The Commission is particularly concerned where the Inner Loop and connecting roadways invade the parks as in the case which has been brought to the Commission today. The Commission's responsibility in such matters is stated in the legislation establishing the Commission of Fine Arts and

EXHIBIT L

EXHIBIT I

the Executive Order of July 28, 1921 which reads in part as follows: "it is hereby ordered that .... all important plans for parks and all public buildings constructed by the executive departments of the District of Columbia, which in any sense or way affect the appearance of the city of Washington or the District of Columbia shall be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for advice as to the merits of such designs before the executive department having charge of the same shall approve thereof."

Notwithstanding these directives, the Commission has not had an opportunity to advise as to the merits of the design of roadways connecting with the Inner Loop and with the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge in the park area north of Constitution Avenue. Until such time as the Commission can see the entire picture, it is not in a position to advise as to any part of the Inner Loop except to recommend that the Inner Loop in the park areas north and south of Constitution Avenue be put under ground and covered, so that it will not be visible in these areas. The Commission has asked the District Highway Department to submit plans for all roads and structures in these areas provided by law.

The Inner Loop and the roadways and overpasses connecting with the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge are financed in part with Federal funds. This requires conformity to the standards of the Bureau of Public Roads that roads and structures shall be designed to accommodate a speed limit of 50 miles per hour. Under these circumstances, every effort should be made to minimize the number of roadways and crossings built in the park areas, especially in the neighborhood of the Lincoln Memorial and the proposed National Cultural Center.

EXHIBIT L

EXHIBIT I